

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 02981 241416Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12 HA-05 /090 W
-----095590 241434Z /45

O 241335Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9104

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 2981

PRETORIA ALSO FOR AMBASSADOR LOW

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG SF WA

SUBJ: NAMIBIA: FOLLOW UP ON CLASH AT CAPRIVI STRIP - ZAMBIAN
BORDER

REF: LUSAKA 2962, LUSAKA 2966

1. SUMMARY: FOREIGN MINISTER MWALE SUMMONED LUSAKA CONTACT
GROUP REPS AT 1400 HOURS LOCAL TO PROVIDE A FOLLOW UP ON
YESTERDAY'S MEETING COVERING MILITARY ACTIVITY ALONG THE
ZAMBIAN-CAPRIVI STRIP BORDER. HE SAID SOUTH AFRICA HAS
MOVED TROOPS INTO ZAMBIAN TERRITORY TRANSPORTED BY 12 TROOP
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LUSAKA 02981 241416Z

CARRIERS. FIGHTING CONTINUES. LIVES AND PROPERTY HAVE BEEN
LOST. HE APPEALED TO CONTACT GROUP GOVERNMENTS TO URGE
RESTRAINT ON SOUTH AFRICA. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO MWALE, SOUTH AFRICANS PENETRATED INTO
ZAMBIAN TERRITORY BEGINNING AFTERNOON AUGUST 23. HE ESTIMATED
THAT AT LEAST 200 TROOPS ARE TAKING PART AND 12 TROOP CARRIERS

WERE INVOLVED. THUS FAR, SOUTH AFRICAN ATTACK HAS RESULTED IN 12 ZAMBIAN CIVILIANS KILLED AND SIX INJURED. IN ADDITION, SESHEKE AIRPORT HAS BEEN SHELLED, A NUMBER OF BUILDINGS DESTROYED AND A POWER LINE PUT OUT OF COMMISSION. FIGHTING CONTINUES.

3. MWALE SAID HE WISHED TO REAFFIRM THAT ZAMBIA HAD IN NO WAY BEEN INVOLVED IN AN ACTION AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA. THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN CONTRARY TO ZAMBIAN POLICY OF REFRAINING FROM ATTACKING ITS NEIGHBORS. HE ADMITTED THAT ZAMBIA DOES SUPPORT LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, BUT STRESSED THIS IS A MORAL DUTY WHICH ZAMBIA COULD NOT REFUSE.

4. HE REASSERTED THAT SOUTH AFRICA WAS USING THE INCIDENT NEAR SESHEKE AS AN EXCUSE TO THROW A WRENCH INTO THE SETTLEMENT WORKS. DESPITE THIS, ZAMBIA WOULD CONTINUE TO COOPERATE ON A PEACEFUL NAMIBIAN SETTLEMENT. ZAMBIA WILL NOT BE DRAWN INTO ANY ACT WHICH MIGHT JEOPARDIZE CARRYING OUT THE NAMIBIAN ACCORDS.

5. MWALE ASKED CONTACT GROUP REPRESENTATIVES THROUGH THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO URGE SOUTH AFRICA TO DESIST FROM ITS ACTION. HE THEN WENT ON TO MENTION THAT ZAMBIA HAS THE RIGHT TO CALL IN ITS FRIENDS FOR PROTECTION WHEN CONFRONTED BY UNPROVOKED VIOLATIONS OF ITS SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY. THUS FAR ZAMBIA HAS DECLINED TO DO SO BECAUSE ZAMBIA DOES NOT WANT AN IDEOLOGICAL WAR ON ITS TERRITORY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LUSAKA 02981 241416Z

6. AS AN AFTERTHOUGHT, MWALE SAID HE WOULD LIKE THE FIVE REPRESENTATIVES TO BRING TO THEIR GOVERNMENTS' ATTENTION THE FACT THAT KAUNDA SHOULD BE COMMENDED FOR RESTRAINING THE ZAMBIAN AIR FORCE FROM COUNTERATTACKING THE SOUTH AFRICAN AGGRESSORS.
CLINGERMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BORDER INCIDENTS, COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LUSAKA02981
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780346-0960
Format: TEL
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780829/aaaaaxow.tel
Line Count: 100
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6a0ea45c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 LUSAKA 2962, 78 LUSAKA 2966
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1634992
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NAMIBIA: FOLLOW UP ON CLASH AT CAPRIVI STRIP - ZAMBIAN BORDER
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA, ZA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6a0ea45c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014